

The following survey is designed to track career paths of public historians who earned a Masters in public history or a closely related field or who attended such a program but did not complete the degree. It has been created by a task force formed by the American Association for State and Local History, the American Historical Association, the National Council on Public History, and the Organization of American Historians to study trends in public history education and employment. The survey data will be made available to the sponsoring organizations and shared through professional publications and websites. Survey data will be used to understand broad trends in public history careers, to assist in preparing public historians for careers in and outside of the field, and to align public history education with the current job market.

All responses are strictly confidential. Survey data will not be used to compare, “rank,” or otherwise evaluate public history programs. If you specify the name of the program from which you graduated, your responses will be aggregated with others from the same program and provided to the current program director (if requested) so that the experiences of alumni can be compared with all responses received. If you do not specify your program, your responses will become part of the overall data set. Under no circumstances will individual responses be used to identify respondents, nor will aggregated responses from one program be shared with another.

1. Which of the following best describes your background?

- Received MA in public history
- Received MA in history with some public history training
- Received graduate certificate in public history
- Received dual Masters in public history and another field
- Started MA program in public history or a closely related field but did not graduate
- Other (please specify)

2. If you received a graduate degree in public history or a closely related field, when did you graduate?

\* 3. Did you secure employment before completing your degree? For the purposes of this question, do not count internships. Employment means a job in or outside of public history.

- Yes
- No

4. Was that employment full-time or part-time?

- Full-time
- Part-time
- Full-time or part-time temporary (e.g., grant funded, limited term, etc.)

5. Did you subsequently finish your degree?

- Yes
- No

6. If you answered no to question 5, did securing employment prior to graduation contribute to your not completing the requirements of the degree?

- Yes
- No

\* 7. Was the first professional job you secured after completing your degree a public history position?

- Yes
- No

8. What was the title of your first public history position?

9. If you had not secured employment in public history by the time you graduated and you later obtained employment in the field, how long did it take you to find that position?

- Less than 3 months
- 3-6 months
- 6-9 months
- 9 months to 1 year
- More than 1 year
- More than 2 years

10. Was the position you secured full-time or part-time?

- Full-time
- Part-time
- Full-time temporary
- Part-time temporary

11. How long did you remain in the first public history job you obtained?

- Less than 6 months
- 6-12 months
- 1-2 years
- 3-5 years
- 5-10 years
- 10+ years

12. Did the first position you obtained have benefits (health insurance, retirement, etc.)?

- Yes
- No

13. If you are not currently still in that first position, did you take a different job in the field of public history?

- Yes
- No

14. Was that second position full-time?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

15. Did that second position have benefits?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

16. Are you employed in public history or a closely-related field today?

- Yes
- No

17. If you are no longer working in public history, or if you left the field voluntarily for any length of time, what factors influenced your decision? (Check all that apply).

- Inability to find an acceptable position
- Economic considerations
- Personal circumstances
- Interest in moving to a different field of work
- Downsizing of institution or organization
- Other (please specify)

18. How well do you believe your training in public history prepared you for a career in the field?

0 - Very poorly	1	2	3	4	5 - Somewhat	6	7	8	9	10 - Very well
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

19. If you are currently employed in public history or a closely-related field, do you consider your current position appropriate for someone with your skills, training, and experience?

0 - Not at all      1      2      3      4      5 - Somewhat      6      7      8      9      10 - Very much so

20. If you answered the previous question with a rating between "not at all" and "somewhat," how do you consider yourself?

- Underemployed
- In a position that exceeds your training and experience
- Other (please specify)

21. If you are employed in public history or a closely-related field, how many positions did you hold before you obtained one that you considered appropriate to your qualifications and experience?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4 or more

22. When searching for full-time professional employment early in your career, how much did geographic considerations influence your choices? Would you have gone almost anywhere for the right position, or did you strongly prefer a particular area?

- Geography had little or no role in my choices
- Geography influenced my choices somewhat
- I gave roughly equal weighting to geography as other factors
- I strongly favored positions in a particular area
- I limited my job search to a particular area

23. How satisfied are you with your current position?

0 - Not at all      1      2      3      4      5 - Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied      6      7      8      9      10 - Extremely satisfied

24. If you are employed in a position that is not generally considered to be part of public history, how useful has your training in public history been?

0 - Not at all	1	2	3	4	5 - Neither useful nor useless	6	7	8	9	10 - Very useful
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

\* 25. If you are employed in public history and have a spouse or domestic partner, how do you consider yourself?

- The primary earner in your household
- One of two earners who contribute about equally
- The secondary earner in your household
- Not applicable

26. Was the position you obtained in a field related to public history?

- Yes
- No

27. Did you continue to seek employment in public history after obtaining employment?

- Yes
- No

28. If you answered "Yes" to the previous question, did your efforts result in your obtaining a job in public history?

- Yes
- No

29. If you answered "Yes" to the previous question, are you still working as a public historian today?

- Yes
- No

30. For the NON-public history positions you have held, how useful was your public history training?

0 - Not at all useful					5 - Neither useful nor useless						10 - Very useful
1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9			
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

31. Continuing to think about the non-public history positions you have held, do you regard your training in public history as having proven versatile?

0 - Not at all					5 - Neutral						10 - Yes
1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9			
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

32. The goal of this survey is to identify general patterns in employment for graduates of MA programs in public history. Is there any information you wish to provide that may help us with this goal? Please feel free to share challenges you encountered in finding satisfactory employment, your overall levels of job and career satisfaction, and any other issues you wish to mention. We are especially interested in the experiences of people trained in public history who have pursued careers in other fields. Comments regarding the usefulness and applicability of your public history training are especially welcome.

33. What is the name of the institution where you obtained your public history degree? (Optional)

Other (please specify)